

Israel source after Murphy talks: Lebanon must yield on UNIFIL issue

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

If Lebanon does not accept by Christmas the basic principle, that UNIFIL must deploy throughout the area now held by the IDF, then Israel will use the three-week Christmas recess in the Nakoura talks for a "review and reassessment" of their purpose and progress.

Israeli sources put forward this position last night after a day of talks with senior U.S. State Department aide Richard Murphy. But they insisted that there was "no ultimatum" and explained that the "reassessment" need not necessarily lead to breaking off the talks or to unilateral withdrawal on the ground.

It might, for instance, result in an effort to negotiate in a different format, the sources said.

Murphy, who flew in on Saturday from Saudi Arabia, met separately with Prime Minister Peres, Defence Minister Rabin, and top officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Some government circles seemed embarrassed yesterday at the fact that each time Murphy comes here, he meets with three separate top policymakers, each flanked by aides and advisers. Yesterday's experience was especially clumsy since the media briefings offered after these various encounters did not entirely jibe. While some reports spoke of an "ultimatum," others conveyed energetic denials of any such dramatic or far-reaching formulation.

Israeli sources did not conceal their regret over the decision to recess the Nakoura talks for three weeks. They tended to "blame" the UN for this inevitable loss of momentum.

The Israeli sources disclosed that the Lebanese side had ostensibly

been prepared to accede to an Israeli suggestion that the pace of the talks be intensified until the recess - but only on condition that at least one session be held on Saturday, which the Israeli side had had to refuse.

The sources said that both U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Rabin had separately predicted that the Christmas recess would inevitably create a pause for stocktaking and possible change of course if no substantial progress were achieved by then. December 20, the recess date, was therefore a "target date" by which time some advance must be achieved, both Shultz and Rabin believed.

They said that the principle of UNIFIL deployment throughout the present IDF-held zone is Israel's basic and minimal demand.

Hirsh Goodman adds: Defence Minister Rabin and a team of advisers from both the Defence Ministry and the Israeli Defence Forces outlined for Murphy yesterday how the Nakoura talks had reached their present stage.

"While Ambassador Murphy was made aware of our frustration, he did not hear a threat," *The Jerusalem Post* was told.

The focal point of Murphy's mission, which will be suspended for Christmas, has changed from Damascus to Beirut, with both American and Israeli officials recognizing that any agreement with Syria regarding Lebanon's eastern sector will have to wait until there is some solution worked out for the west.

Murphy will apparently try to obtain Syrian approval, albeit tacit, for Lebanese government moves to end the stalemate. Without such approval, any Lebanese decisions could be negated by the Syrians.

Shultz: 'U.S. committed to secure Israel'

By WALTER RUBY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK. - The U.S. has "an iron-clad commitment to the security of Israel," Secretary of State George Shultz said yesterday.

Shultz was speaking at the convocation of Yeshiva University here, where he and Foreign Minister Shamir received honorary degrees.

Shultz said, "Our goal has been to encourage negotiations of a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict," but added, "we believe that Israel must be strong if a lasting peace in the region is to be achieved."

The Israeli people must be sure of their security," Shamir praised Shultz for his recent statement on the need to use force against international terrorism.

Shamir also said that "Egypt and Jordan can together lead an Arab camp toward accommodation with Israel."

But he stressed that the two countries, "cannot expect to move any closer to this goal by aligning themselves with the terrorist PLO."

Shamir and Shultz held a 45-minute private meeting.



U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy (right) and his team meet with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left) and defence establishment personnel in Rabin's office yesterday. (Annam Galmi)

In the Bank of Israel

New dollarization plan in the works

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

A plan to link the economy either partially or totally to the dollar is being worked out by a group of economic experts in the Bank of Israel's Research Department, *The Jerusalem Post* has learned.

According to reliable sources, the team is drafting plans to raise the price of subsidized goods, to carry out a one-time devaluation of the shekel, to reduce purchase and im-

port taxes and to lower export subsidies.

The team is headed by Prof. Michael Bruno of the Hebrew University. Bruno was appointed adviser to the central bank's research department two weeks ago. Since then he has been drafting a series of proposals on steps to be taken in the near future.

The sources indicated that the team does not want to wait until the price freeze ends, believing that the

proposed measures should be applied as soon as possible to head off a spending spree at the end of January.

But there is a growing feeling in the team that the ministers will oppose the semi-dollarization option, seeing it as too risky, and that they will prefer a gradual approach.

The other obstacles in the way of the experts' plans, the sources say, is the Histadrut, which opposes any (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Cabinet accolade for prime minister's visit to Paris

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Prime Minister Peres was accorded a lavishly warm welcome by his cabinet colleagues yesterday on returning from his visit to France.

Deputy Premier David Levy (Likud-Herut) spoke of the visit as "an achievement for the nation and the state," and Tourism Minister Avraham Shari (Likud-Liberal) dubbed it "historic."

Peres reported on his talks with President Francois Mitterrand and his economic discussions with Prime Minister Laurent Fabius and other French government and business leaders.

Much of the premier's report and the discussion which followed were subsequently designated a session of the Ministerial Defence Committee. Official sources would only say that France had evinced "an interest and" (Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Peres skirts cabinet row over long absence of Sharon

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Prime Minister Peres headed off possible Labour-Likud tension in his cabinet yesterday when he ruled that Ariel Sharon's prolonged stay in New York would not be debated at the weekly cabinet meeting.

Peres also repeated his request to all ministers to furnish the cabinet secretariat with a schedule of their planned trips abroad during the first quarter of 1985, stating the purpose and projected duration of their intended journeys.

Cabinet sources said only half-a-dozen ministers had so far complied with Peres's request, and of these some were not planning to go anywhere.

The issue of Sharon's month-long sojourn in New York, in connection with his libel suit against *Time* magazine, was raised obliquely by Tourism Minister Avraham Shari (Likud-Liberal), who urged Peres

to "call to order ministers who advise other ministers to resign."

This was a reference to a weekend interview by Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev (Labour) in which Bar-Lev had called on Sharon to resign or take a leave of absence.

Bar-Lev immediately asked for the floor, and restated his argument that at this time of economic crisis, Israel needs an on-the-job minister of industry and trade, and if Sharon cannot meet this need, he should stand down.

Bar-Lev, a former IDF chief of staff, and Sharon, a former top general and defence minister, have been personal and political rivals for many years.

After the cabinet meeting, Shari observed to newsmen that if a minister is considered remiss in the fulfilment of his duties, it is for the prime minister - and not his ministerial peers - to pass comment on his conduct.

Hijackers, 7 hostages walk out

Iranian troops storm hijacked Kuwaiti airliner

NICOSIA (AP). - Iranian troops stormed the Kuwaiti airliner at Teheran Airport last night and the hijackers and remaining hostages were seen walking down the landing steps with their hands raised in the air, the official Iranian News Agency, Irna, reported.

The agency said the hijacked airbus was stormed 15 minutes before midnight, (10 p.m. Israel time) ending the drama that started six days earlier.

Irna's account said the hijackers asked last night for service workers to clean the plane. When the security men arrived, disguised as cleaners, they grabbed one of the hijackers and pushed him down the stairs.

"The operation was carried out swiftly enough to prevent any counter-action by the armed hijackers," Irna said.

"Seconds later, everyone inside came out, while bursts of gunfire were being heard all around the plane," Irna added.

The storming of the plane came

after a day of tension during which the hijackers had announced their "final warning" to blow up the plane and the remaining hostages aboard if their demand for the release of 17 prisoners jailed in Kuwait was not met.

The hijackers told the control tower they had rigged the plane with explosives, gave it their last wills and testaments and said they made their last prayers.

The plane was stormed about three hours after the hijackers released seven more of their hostages, leaving another seven aboard, according to those released.

The seven freed last night, described by Irna as six crew members and a flight engineer, said later there were still seven hostages on board and that the hijackers seemed ready to blow up the Kuwait Airways Airbus.

The remaining hostages were two Americans, a British pilot and four Arabs. Irna quoted the freed crew members as saying:

In London, Foreign Office (Continued on Back Page)

Banks go on trial on 'cartel' charges

By PINHAS LANDAU
Post Finance Reporter

TEL AVIV. - The trial of the four largest banks and their heads opened yesterday at the Tel Aviv Magistrates' Court with the defendants seeming to score the most points in the early sparring with the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

The ministry's department of trade restrictions has charged the banks with forming a cartel in the summer and autumn of 1983 to reduce interest rates paid to *apex* depositors.

The accused are not only banks Leumi, Hapoalim, Discount and Mizrahi, but also their heads - Ernest Japhet of Leumi, Giora Gazit from Hapoalim, Discount's Eli Cohen and Aharon Meir of Mizrahi.

The charges were first brought before the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court in last August following a prolonged investigation by the

ministry. It was charged that the executives named, representing their respective corporations, met on June 5, 1983, and subsequently, acted jointly to bring down interest paid on short-term *apex* deposits, which was then around 120 per cent per annum. As a result, according to the charge sheet, this rate fell immediately, and in all the banks, to 85 per cent.

Further meetings in August and November 1983, produced rate rises to 93 and 103 per cent, according to the ministry. All these activities constitute a cartel and are a criminal offence under the Trade Registrations Law, says the ministry's department involved with overseeing implementation of the law. Hence the decision to press charges.

Nevertheless, this decision had to be vetted by the attorney-general. Reports this summer made clear that (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)

No sign of end to Tel Aviv municipal strike

By MICHAL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - The strike of Tel Aviv's municipal workers enters its sixth day today, with no sign that the city will be able to pay the striking workers their November salaries.

The city's welfare services have ceased operating and needy elderly people have not been getting meals.

Nursery school children are getting no meals at day-care centres, and schools have not been cleaned for the past week.

Garbage piles are growing higher in city streets, especially in the market and restaurant areas. The smell of garbage is not yet overpowering due to the cold weather, but the trash is already a health hazard,

Municipal Sanitation Department head Arye Kremer said yesterday.

Mayor Shlomo Lahat accused the government of refusing to recognize the city's financial plight. But his spokesman declined to say whether Lahat was trying to see the prime minister or any government minister to get funds for the city. No attempt (Continued on Page 7)

Campaign for Soviet Jews gathers momentum

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The 1,000 Jewish families in Israel and the West who have been separated against their will from close relatives still in Russia are living proof that the Soviets are lying when they say every Jew who wanted to emigrate has done so.

For Alla Kaminskaya, whose twin sister, parents and nephew have been refused permission to come on aliyah since 1979, today's marking of International Human Rights Day carries with it a bitter reminder.

Her father, Alexander Kaminsky, was refused permission to leave on the grounds that he had worked previously in a military factory. But he was merely a locksmith, and knows no secrets. Her mother Lubov, 55, has a weak heart, and

Alla - who lives in Jerusalem's Gilo quarter with her husband and two daughters - fears writing anything that would make her emotional.

"My family were never aliyah activists," says Alla, a bookkeeper who came to Israel from Kiev in January 1978. "I never dreamed of going to Israel," she says, "until I met my husband, who wanted very much to go on aliyah."

They and their baby daughter left just after the twins celebrated their 23rd birthday around Hanukkah.

"It's very sad that we're both turning 30 when we're so far apart," Alla says that any letters that she sends that contain photos of the family in Jerusalem are prevented by the Soviets from reaching her parents. Although she receives letters from Kiev every three weeks or so, little correspondence is allowed in from Israel, and her parents and sister, Violetta, a former music stu-

dent who had to leave her studies on applying for an exit visa, worry about her constantly.

"Life in Russia is made difficult on purpose so that citizens have no time or strength to think about anything but buying food and clothing and going to work," says Alla sadly. Her family were so preoccupied with these things that when they could apply for aliyah when Alla did, they decided to wait and see how she liked Israel. Now they cannot get out.

"Family is the most important thing," she concludes. "You can always get another job and a new home, but never another family. My parents have no other relatives in the USSR."

Solidarity Week for Soviet Jewry will be marked during Hanukkah, starting December 19. All the mem- (Continued on Page 3)

2 Soviet aliyah activists granted exit permits

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Two of the 21 Leningrad aliyah activists who in October made a telephone appeal to Israel for stronger action on their behalf were due to arrive here last night.

Dr. Lev Uteviski, a polymer chemistry researcher at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev received a telephone call yesterday from his daughter Eugenia in Vienna where she had arrived with her husband Mordechai Yudobrovsky, and their two children. They had been waiting for exit permits since July 1982. Their first home here will be the Gilo absorption centre in Jerusalem.

Also due to arrive with them was a more recent refusnik, artist Eugeny Pozin.

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Cabinet sets IS400m. for job training

By ILAN CHAIM

Jerusalem Post Reporter
In a move to combat rising unemployment, the cabinet yesterday approved a request by Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katsav for IS400 million for job-training programmes.

The meeting was unmarked by the kind of bitter exchanges between Katsav and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i which have characterized such sessions in recent weeks. One source suggested that the calm and alacrity of decision were connected with last week's publication of the unemployment statistics for November, which showed a continuing increase.

The IS400m. will go to enhance existing job-training programmes as well as to develop new ones tailored for demobilized soldiers. The emphasis of the new programmes will be on training for high-technology industries.

In line with job training, the cabinet also agreed to consider this week Katsav's request for between \$150m. to \$170m. for government

investment in industry in development areas.

In a review of the employment situation, Katsav told his fellow ministers that a recent State Employment Service survey had found that 30 per cent of the country's unemployed had agreed to undergo job retraining.

During the past three months, Katsav said, 35 per cent of workers who had been fired had found new jobs, without registering at local labour exchanges.

Katsav also noted what he called an "irresponsible and growing trend" among some employers, who refuse to hire workers referred to them by the labour exchanges on the grounds they are "unsuitable."

Most of these workers are not unsuitable, said Katsav, but the employers reject them out of hand in favour of cheaper, unorganized labour from the territories. Israeli employers requested 1,746 labourers from Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District last month, up from 1,183 in October, said Katsav.



Deputy Premier David Levy addresses an estimated 2,000 Jewish and Arab construction workers who demonstrated yesterday outside the Prime Minister's Office. (Rahamim Israeli)

2,000 construction workers demonstrate for more jobs

By ROBERT ROSENBERG

Jerusalem Post Staff
Some 2,000 Jewish and Arab construction workers, who were bused into Jerusalem by the Histadrut yesterday, demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's Office during the cabinet meeting, demanding more jobs, more money, and more workers organized under the labour federation's banner.

The problem, as explained by Histadrut Trade Union Department head Eitan Haberfeld in a speech often interrupted by a heckler, is "organization."

The incomes of the country's 60,000 construction workers are being eroded by the far lower wages that West Bank and Gazan Arabs are ready to take to do the same job, Haberfeld said. The Histadrut wants the unorganized labourers to be

organized by the Histadrut, he said. "There were years that I can remember," said 55-year-old Haim Ben-Haim of Kiron, "when I could work a day and rest a week. Nowadays even if I work every day of the month, I only take home IS150,000."

An Arab construction worker said he did not care if a Histadrut organization of West Bank and Gazan Arabs would be a step toward annexation of the territories. "I don't care about the big politics. All I care about is that I'll have work and be able to feed my children," he said.

Housing Minister David Levy came out of the cabinet meeting to say that he was once a construction worker and to promise a meeting for a delegation of construction workers with him and Prime Minister Peres.

Court: Vacate land around Dayan's house

Jerusalem Post Staff
TEL AVIV - Attorney Menashe Bar-Shilton, who two years ago bought the North Tel Aviv house of the late Moshe Dayan, has lost an appeal against a municipal order to vacate land on which a wall around the house was built, the municipality announced yesterday.

The wall was built on municipal land in 1968 at the request of the Defence Ministry, on the grounds that Dayan, then defence minister, needed it for security reasons. The city agreed to build the wall on condition it be removed as soon as Dayan no longer needed its protection.

The municipality demolished the wall shortly after Bar-Shilton bought the house in 1982. According to the city, Bar-Shilton then rebuilt the wall and expropriated the area it surrounded.

At the municipality's request, the magistrates court then ordered Bar-Shilton to surrender the area. Bar-Shilton appealed the order, but the district court rejected the appeal, saying the attorney had trespassed on municipal property.

El Al flights to Eilat
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV - El Al said yesterday that two days before Christmas it will operate five direct flights from Europe to Eilat, carrying some 1,200 visitors.

The company reported that last month it flew 6,000 tourists to the southern resort town.

Search continues for Hadass Kedmi

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA - The search for missing soldier Hadass Kedmi, 20, from Kibbutz Kfar Masaryk, was continued on a small scale yesterday, but without results, the police spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

Kedmi was last seen 12 days ago, when she left a car which gave her a lift from her Tel Aviv area army camp, on her way home for the weekend, at the junction to Derech Hayam.

Yesterday's search was carried out by members of her kibbutz and police.

Observant hosts sought for Ethiopians

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Observant families around the country who are willing to host new Ethiopian immigrants in their homes on Shabbat of Hanukkah next week are being sought in Safad.

Safad volunteers say that Ethiopian immigrants' spiritual needs are being neglected. Many lack basic ritual articles and religious books, and are lonely and isolated.

Kashrut-observing families ready to host immigrants are asked to contact 067-30448 or 04-644861.

Defendant: GSS man urged the terror gang to reveal all

The number-1 accused in the Jewish terrorist-ring trial, Menahem Livni, yesterday testified that the head of the investigation branch in the General Security Service told him during his interrogation that the charges against the ring could harm the election campaign of those who spoke under the banner of "the national camp."

The security official argued that the accused must therefore clearly explain their motives to the public to prevent damage to the cause of "the national camp," he said.

Speaking at the hearing on admissibility of evidence in the Jerusalem District Court, Livni testified that the security official, called "Segal," had told him: "You as a commander must consider the general problem, the general good. Your duty is to speak up. If you don't - you'll sit in solitary. You will suffer for a long time if you keep silent... Only we can help you. I am in a senior position in the GSS. My word means something. You cooperate and we'll help you. We are connected directly to the prime minister..."

Another security official, who was called "Kaf Gimel," responsible for collecting information, said he had known Livni for three years. According to Livni, the man said he respected the settlement venture in Hebron and the self-sacrifice of the settlers there. The security officials added, according to Livni, that he had been shocked by the 1983 murder by terrorists of the yeshiva student Aharon Gross and thought that the government should have given more help to the settlers.

Livni said that a third security official, called "Itzik," had said that there was a national consensus regarding the 1980 attack on the West Bank mayors and that he understood the attack on Hebron's Islamic College in 1983, in which three Arab students died, because of the settlers' difficult circumstances, but that he could not fathom the aborted bus bombings or the planned attack on the Temple Mount Islamic sites earlier this year.

Livni testified that "Segal" had said that the accused must "speak" to the public so that the GSS could act to get them a pardon. (Itim)

'Buy-backs' bring \$500m. in export sales

By AARON SITTNER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
About \$500 million worth of export orders have been arranged so far this year by the Industrial Cooperation Authority, a little-known organization operated jointly by the Defence Ministry and the Industry and Trade Ministry.

At a meeting with reporters in Jerusalem yesterday, authority director Zvi Alon admitted that the name "is really a euphemism since we do not like to use the term 'offset purchases' because of its connotation."

Backed by law, the authority forbids any government agency, state corporation or state-assisted organization or institution to sign an import purchase contract unless an offset purchase or "buy-back" clause is included. This means that for every purchase of \$50,000 or more worth of goods abroad, the supplier obligates himself to buy Israeli goods or services valued at 35 per cent of the amount of his sale.

Alon said: "Because of our heavy purchases abroad, reciprocal purchases here reached \$500m. this year, and they will probably be higher next year. About 95 per cent of our sales this year have been in technological products. After all, what country that can afford to sell substantial amounts of merchandise is in need of consumer goods that we manufacture?"

Besides the millions of dollars in new export orders, Israeli industry gains vital know-how through these "buy-back" deals, Alon explained.

"Since many of the foreign suppliers are arms manufacturers," he said, "they naturally are interested in using their offset purchases for high-tech items they require in their day-to-day operations. And when they place an order with an Israeli firm, a certain amount of technical know-how comes with that order. In fact, a good part of the successful development of our defence industries is due to this steady flow of technical expertise we get from our suppliers."

To ease ordering from Israeli firms, Alon's 9-member staff has just published a comprehensive 185-page classified catalogue that lists every eligible Israeli producer and the products he is able to manufacture.

If an overseas supplier would rather invest in Israel than buy goods or services, the authority will credit him with two dollars for every dollar he invests here.

Protests urged against Akaba pipeline

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Jerusalem Post Reporter
An American-backed project to pipe oil from Iraq to the Jordanian port of Akaba is threatening the marine life in the Gulf of Eilat with utter destruction, according to the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel.

In the latest issue of *Israel - Land and Nature*, the SPNI's English-language periodical, an open letter to the readers urges them to take action. The projected pipeline, which would carry a million barrels of oil a day, is to be constructed by the Bechtel Corporation of the U.S.

The letter notes that parts of the coast of eastern Sinai were pro-

claimed protected areas in a resolution of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 1981. The following year the IUCN recommended that these regions be classified as World Heritage Areas.

The SPNI says that because of its narrow proportions and the delicate ecological balance in the gulf, any large oil spill into its waters will kill the marine flora and fauna. Readers who are U.S. citizens are urged to write to their congressmen to demand that a detailed and authoritative environmental impact assessment be made, as it would be by law if the project were being carried out in the U.S., before any American government aid is extended.

Maof computer supplies list of ticket-holders

BEN-GURION AIRPORT (Itim).
Under an order from the Tel Aviv District Court, the computer of the Maof charter airline was reactivated over the weekend, and by yesterday it had supplied details on 800 holders of the airlines tickets.

The computer had been out of action since the airline went bankrupt a month ago.

Last Tuesday the court ordered

Yosef Gross, the airline's temporary receiver, to supply a list of ticket-holders to the Committee for the Rights of Maof Passengers. The committee hopes that by the end of the week it will have a full list of some 5,000 people who had unused tickets when the company went broke.

The court order also asks the parties to try to reach an arrangement enabling the ticket-holders to fly.

Pirate TV station raided in mid-teletax

A pirate cable television station in Kiryat Ono was raided yesterday morning while broadcasting music between films by Communication Ministry employees accompanied by police and VAT officials. This brings to four the number of such stations to be raided since Friday.

The station had some 500 subscribers who paid \$120 a year for its

services. Its owner was arrested in Or Yehuda, and broadcasting equipment was seized at the station.

A pirate cable TV station in Kiryat Haim yesterday broadcast a short message to its viewers announcing that it will be stopping all programming until further notice due to Communications Ministry raids. (Itim).

IBA rules against contracts with freelancers

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The Israel Broadcasting Authority yesterday decided against signing new work agreements with freelancers. This followed last Friday's sudden walk-out by freelance television editors and a subsequent work stoppage by freelance camera crews, which halted the broadcast of the *Mabat* weekly news magazine.

Issuing the directive against renewal of work agreements with the freelancers, IBA director-general Yehi Porat said they would have to pay for going on strike without giving prior warning of intent.

The freelancers went on strike to protest against the IBA's failure to make cost-of-living adjustments in their November salaries. Porat said that making such an adjustment would have been in violation of the wage and price freeze agreement concluded last month by the Histadrut, the employers and the government.

AMNESTY. - President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania pardoned 1,018 prisoners yesterday in an amnesty marking the East African country's 23rd anniversary of independence.



Kiev refusenik Alexander Kaminsky and (left to right) his wife Lobov and children, Alexei and Violetta.

SOVIET JEWS

(Continued from Page One)
bers of the government, members of the Zionist Executive and scores of MKs have signed a petition expressing support for the Jews of Russia. The square outside Jewish Agency headquarters in Jerusalem will next week be called "Soviet Jewry Square" and thousands of Hanukkah cards are being sent to refuseniks. Petitions signed by Israeli dignitaries and citizens will be brought to foreign embassies for transfer to the Soviet Union.

The conference of the Central Union of Russian Immigrants held yesterday in Beit Sokolov in Tel Aviv called on the government and the Jewish Agency to press for ending the political refugee status granted by the U.S. government to Soviet Jews immigrating to the U.S.

The drop-out rate among the very small number of Jews leaving the Soviet Union now stands at about 80 per cent, the conference was told.

"We have reason to believe that dialogue between the U.S. and the USSR will resume in 1985, and that as a result more Jews will be allowed

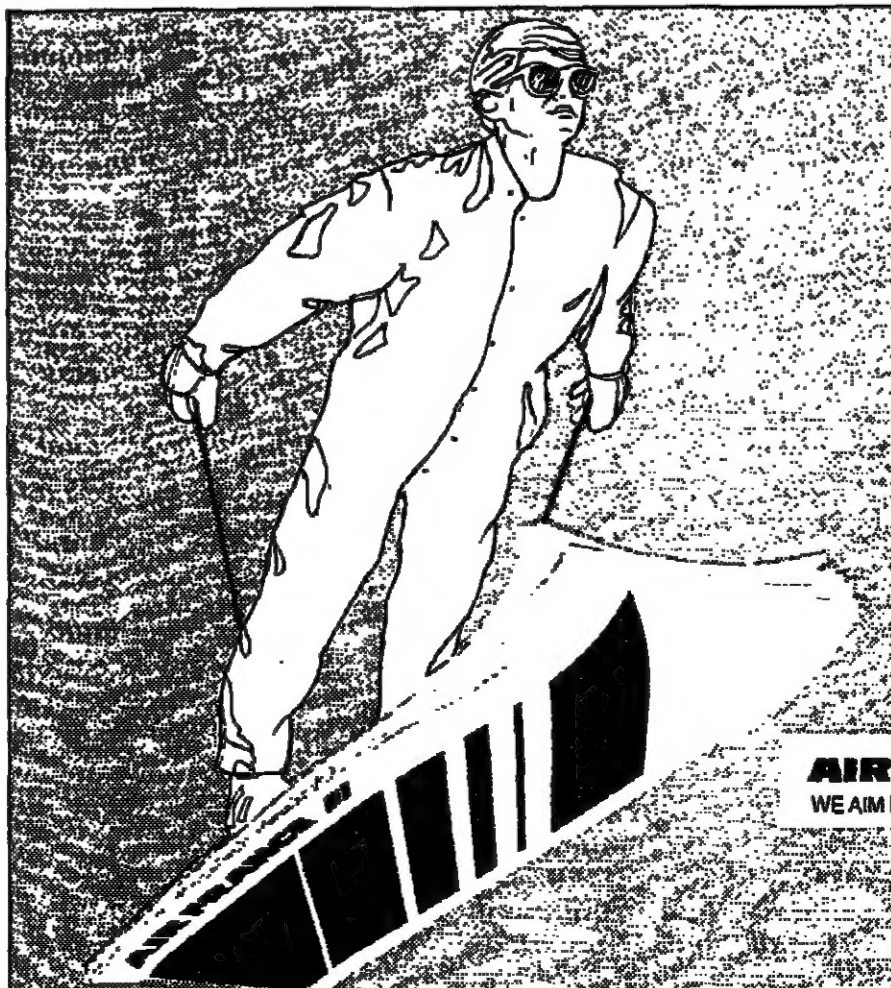
to leave Russia than are leaving today," Abraham Stukerevich, chairman of the organization explained. "If the drop-out problem continues and Jews go to the U.S., instead of coming to Israel, the Soviet Union will close the doors of emigration again because emigration goes against their whole philosophy. Only repatriation is acceptable, and that means Jews coming to Israel."

Resolutions were passed urging streamlining of the bureaucracy in immigrant absorption and demanding that the Knesset pass a law guaranteeing every new immigrant an apartment and a job.

Upper Nazareth municipality yesterday asked its twin cities in France and West Germany to press the Soviet embassies in their countries on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Hanukkah greetings to everyone in Israel came yesterday in a letter from refusenik Ida Nudel received by World Wizo president Raya Jaglom. Nudel thanked Jaglom and others for their efforts on her behalf even though they have not borne fruit.

THIS WINTER, SKI IN THE FRENCH ALPS



France has more than 500 ski resorts, and those in the French Alps are the best known internationally. Modern, with longer and more varied ski slopes, special sun exposure, children's villages and a large choice of amenities. France provides the professional and the amateur with a real holiday at fair prices. Ask for our winter 84/85 brochure, you will find all the details on accommodation and services in 17 resorts of the French Alps. Ski in France - there is no better. For details apply to your travel agent or Air France's offices in Tel-Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa.

Flaine	Courchevel
Megève	Isola 2000
Tignes	Alpe d'Huez
Avoriaz	Les 2 Alpes
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As corporation chief leaves country

U.S. lawyers in India to sue Union Carbide

BHOPAL, India (Reuters). — Union Carbide chairman Warren Anderson secretly left India yesterday, as the death toll from the poison gas leak at a company factory here last Monday continued to rise.

According to the unofficial counts, some 2,500 people have died as a result of the leak of methyl isocyanate gas from a factory owned by the company's local subsidiary.

The U.S. Embassy and Union Carbide officials imposed a blackout on Anderson's movements and confirmed his departure for an unknown destination only when he had left.

Meanwhile, three teams of top U.S. lawyers arrived in India over the weekend and held discussions with Indian lawyers about helping victims with multi-million dollar compensation claims.

Washington lawyer John Coale, who was involved in claims on behalf of the U.S. hostages in Iran, estimated the claims would be about \$500 million.

But a \$15 billion suit on behalf of two

Bhopal residents has already been filed by two Miami lawyers, in association with flamboyant San Francisco attorney Melvin Belli.

Indian authorities have said they want compensation equal to what would be available in the U.S. and the Madhya Pradesh state government said yesterday it would file a compensation suit against Union Carbide within a week.

Union Carbide announced yesterday in New Delhi that it would donate 10 million rupees (\$850,000) to a relief fund set up by the Madhya Pradesh government to aid victims of the gas.

The company also said it is setting up an orphanage in Bhopal, as well as arranging for "eminent" foreign experts on the treatment of the chest and eyes to come to India.

Company Chairman Anderson left New Delhi after a dramatic three days in India. He was held in custody for about six hours in Bhopal on five charges including criminal negligence, before being released on Friday night.

He was released on the understanding that he leave quickly because his presence in India could arouse strong passions.

There were no details of talks Anderson held Saturday with Indian Foreign Secretary M.K. Rasgotra.

Union Carbide's two top executives in India are still in custody in Bhopal and are due to go before a magistrate today to present their application for bail.

Spokesman for Bhopal hospitals said yesterday that they had treated 125,000 victims since the poisonous gas leaked from an underground storage tank at the factory last Monday.

The spokesman said in the past 24 hours there were at least 50 more deaths and more than 100 new patients admitted to hospitals.

"Most of the affected people are poorly nourished and have low vitality. We are on the lookout for pneumonia and other complications that may arise," said N.R. Bhandari, superintendent of Hamidia Hospital.

After seven days of uncertainty, Madhya Pradesh authorities yesterday declared the city's water supply and atmosphere free from pollution and also said it was safe for the 700,000 residents to eat fish and vegetables.

Opposition defies Pakistan ban on referendum boycott

ISLAMABAD (Reuters). — In the first open defiance of a ban on campaigning against next week's referendum in support of Pakistan President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq, a religious party in the opposition alliance repeated its call for a boycott of the poll.

A spokesman for Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam, a member of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy,

said after a party meeting at the Sind Province town of Ghotki: "The referendum is a fraud in the name of Islam."

The party, part of an alliance of 11 banned political organizations, had formed a committee of 200 Moslem scholars to campaign for a boycott of the referendum, the spokesman said.

Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam, a non-

alliance religious party, wanted to refer the referendum issue to the country's highest Islamic court, its deputy chief, Shah Faridul Haq, told a news conference in Karachi.

The referendum is a call for endorsement of Zia's Islamic policies, but he says a majority "yes" vote will also automatically make him president for a further five years.

The opposition says the referendum is an excuse to prolong military rule. Zia seized power in a July 1977 coup.

The general responded by banning the boycott campaign, making it punishable with up to three years in jail, a fine of 500,000 rupees (\$33,300) and a seven-year bar from standing for parliament or a provincial assembly.

Italian premier under fire for talks with Arafat

ROME (AP). — Italy's Socialist Premier Bettino Craxi is facing a new challenge from government partners angered by his unexpected meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat last week in Tunis.

The debate, which has prompted calls for an overall foreign-policy debate in parliament, yesterday opened a new rift within Craxi's 16-month-old coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals.

Craxi's critics have said the premier undertook a personal initiative without consulting with government partners when he met with Arafat, while the Italian premier was on an official visit to the North African country.

In a statement distributed Saturday, Craxi's office said the meeting with Arafat fell within the framework of a European Common Market consensus to contribute to Middle East peace talks.

Craxi also told reporters in Tunis he had been briefed by Arafat on the results of the Palestinian National Council meeting in Amman, and on prospects of finding a negotiated solution to the Palestinian question.

Panic in Naples

NAPLES (Reuters). — Residents fled their homes in panic and patients were evacuated from several hospitals when an earthquake measuring 3.7 on the Richter scale hit the Naples area on Saturday night, police said.

No injuries or serious damage were reported. The National Geophysics Institute in Rome said the epicentre was at Possouli, just west of Naples.

Sri Lanka arrests 200 rebels, unannounced U.S. envoy visits

COLOMBO (AP). — U.S. presidential envoy General Vernon Walters arrived in Sri Lanka yesterday to confer with government officials on separatist guerrilla violence that has resulted in more than 400 deaths here in three weeks.

Walters' unannounced visit came as more than 200 Tamil rebel suspects were arrested in the curfew-bound northern Jaffna Peninsula.

Walters, former deputy director of the CIA and now an ambassador-at-large, was accompanied by Sri Lanka's Ambassador to Washington Ernest Corea.

"He is here to assess the current situation in Sri Lanka," said U.S. Ambassador to Colombo John Reed.

Sri Lankan sources said Colombo is seeking a supply of U.S. military equipment to battle Tamil guerrillas fighting for an independent state in the north and east of the island nation.

The State Department issued a statement in Washington last Wednesday deploring recent guerrilla attacks on government and civil-

3 mortar shells fired at Nato base in Lisbon suburb

OEIRAS, Portugal (AP). — Three 60-mm mortar shells were fired at the southern Nato command post in this Lisbon suburb early yesterday, causing no injuries but damaging a car, base officials said.

Portuguese Air Force Capt. Eric Capela said the rounds hit the Coimbra base, two falling away from the building complex and the third landing in the parking lot and shattering the windows of a car.

"The explosions didn't have much effect. No one was injured," he said. Capela, the base information officer, said base security details had immediately gone in search of the mortar position, but had found nothing.

Comberant, a communications base for Nato's southern Atlantic operating area with just over 200 Portuguese, British and U.S. servicemen, "is on alert," Capela said.

Later, a left-wing urban guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to the Portuguese news agency Anop. The FP-25 — Popular Forces of April 25, — said they had carried out a similar attack on November 25 against the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon.

Portuguese police are holding 51 suspects on charges of involvement with the FP-25, including revolutionary hero Lieutenant-Colonel Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho. The group are blamed for a number of killings, bombings and bank raids over the past four years.

Bomb damages offices of main French opposition

PARIS (AP). — A bomb exploded yesterday at the headquarters of the conservative Rally for the Republic Party, causing considerable damage but no casualties.

Police said the bomb damaged a half-dozen cars in the vicinity, blew out windows of nearby buildings and badly damaged a room in the RPR offices in Paris's Seventh District, not far from a wing of the National Assembly building.

No one claimed responsibility for the blast. Police specialists were trying to determine the type of explosive and the system used to set off the charge.

The case of another 30 detained students is to be decided in the next few days, the agency quoted a spokesman for the prosecution as saying.

U.S. congressmen visiting Vietnam

WASHINGTON (AP). — Half a dozen congressmen headed for Vietnam this weekend to discuss still unsettled issues from the war which killed some 57,000 U.S. soldiers.

The delegation that will meet with Vietnamese officials includes Rep. G.V. Montgomery, a Mississippi Democrat who is chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

He and five other members of the House left Friday on the 10-day trip.

Egyptians release 65 Al-Azhar students

CAIRO (Reuters). — The state security prosecutor yesterday ordered the release of 65 of an estimated 100 students arrested last month during riots at Cairo's Al-Azhar University, Egypt's Middle East News Agency reported.

The case of another 30 detained students is to be decided in the next few days, the agency quoted a spokesman for the prosecution as saying.

Kuwait, Iran in verbal war over handling of hijacking

KUWAIT (Reuters). — A war of words has erupted between Kuwait and Iran over the Tehran hijack drama, bringing to a head strains over the Iran-Iraq War and bombings here last year that Kuwait has said were linked to Iran.

Hijackers who seized a Kuwaiti Airbus, forced it to Tehran and killed four passengers, have demanded the release of men jailed in Kuwait for their involvement in the bombings.

"The hijacking pitched Kuwait into a tricky diplomatic face-off with Iran, on its (Iran's) ground, on a delicate issue," said a diplomat here.

Kuwaiti authorities jailed 17 men for their part in blasts that shook the U.S. and French Embassies, Kuwait international airport and other state targets, leaving six dead and over 80 injured, on December 12 last year. The men included 12 Iraqis and three Lebanese believed to be pro-Iranian Shiite Moslems.

Kuwaiti authorities said before their trial last February that the accused were members of al-Dawa al-Islami (Islamic Call). The extremist Moslem group seeks an Iranian-style regime in Iraq and opposes Kuwait's support for Iraq in the Persian Gulf war.

Kuwait's foreign minister has since been quoted as saying Iran was connected with the bombings. In an interview with an Arabic weekly last June, Sheikh Sabab al-Ahmed al-Sabah said: "We have seen that (last December's) explosions at Kuwaiti installations and foreign embassies were connected to Iran."

Kuwait has rejected the hijackers' demands and says Iran bears full responsibility for a settlement of the drama.

Iran yesterday followed up a sharp exchange between the two sides over their roles in handling the affair by again accusing Kuwait of failing to meet its obligations.

Bahamian tanker damaged in 2nd missile attack in week

BAHRAIN (Reuters). — A Bahamian-registered tanker, hit in a missile attack in the Persian Gulf yesterday, is being towed to Bahrain for assessment of damage to its hull and tank, shipping sources said.

Independent reports of a strike on the 163,155 gross ton B.T. Investor came soon after a Baghdad military spokesman said Iraqi aircraft had hit a "large naval target" in the latest Gulf war attack on shipping in the waterway.

The Cypriot supertanker Minotaur, victim of a similar attack last Monday, arrived at the United Arab Emirates port of Dubai yesterday for damage assessment.

Gulf shipping sources and Lloyds of London said the B.T. Investor was hit by a missile south of Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal, apparently in an area declared prohibited to shipping by Iraq.

Lloyds said the vessel was holed above the waterline and one of its

tanks was damaged, but there was no loss of life.

The Iraqi spokesman, quoted by Baghdad Radio, gave no precise location for yesterday's attack. He repeated Iraqi warnings that shipping should keep away from its self-proclaimed war zone surrounding Kharg.

The sources also said that a small Kuwaiti-registered coastal cargo ship, the Tareq, was hit Saturday morning in a missile attack 104 kilometres east of Bahrain. Two crewmen of unknown nationality were injured in the attack, which the sources believed was carried out by Iranian planes.

Iraqi warplanes yesterday also carried out heavy raids on Iranian positions in the Misan sector of the southern Gulf war front, according to a high command communique. It said Iraqi jets flew 60 sorties, inflicting heavy casualties, before all the aircraft returned to base safely.

Cave-in survivor ate flesh of dead miners to stay alive

TAIPEI (Reuters). — A coal miner rescued yesterday after spending four days entombed in a shattered Taiwan pit said he had to eat the flesh of dead miners around him to stay alive.

A total of 46 bodies have been recovered following the mine cave-in on Wednesday at the Haishan Iken coal mine near Taipei, and 47 other miners have still to be accounted for. Only two miners have been found alive.

Speaking to investigators and reporters from his hospital bed, the miner brought to the surface yesterday, Chou Tsung-Li 56, said he covered his head with both arms

when an explosion triggered the collapse of the pit.

"Asked how he could manage to stay alive, he said he clung close to a ventilation pipe for a day and a half and then began to feel extremely hungry."

"I just couldn't help it that I had to live on the flesh of the dead ones around me," he said.

A prosecutor from the Taipei district court told reporters: "I really don't know whether he was talking sensibly."

A senior rescue official called finding Chou alive a miracle and said it would buoy rescuers' hope of finding other survivors trapped 2,400 metres down the shaft.

Amnestied Solidarity leader hopes to return to politics

GDANSK (Reuters). — Amnestied underground Solidarity activist Bogdan Lis said yesterday that he wants a political role in Poland's future and would resume contacts with other leaders of the banned free trade union.

Lis, 32, was released from prison on Saturday after the Communist authorities dropped treason charges against him for his underground activities.

Yesterday, morning after going to church in this Baltic port which is his home town, he said: "I have a lot to catch up on. I will be making efforts to see people with whom I have been out of contact for six months." He said he looks forward to renewed political activity.

Members of Lis's family and Father Henryk Jankowski, religious adviser to Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, celebrated his release in a service at St. Brigid's Church, where the congregation of several thousand gave Solidarity salutes and sang patriotic anthems.

Lis, a former Communist, spent 2½ years in hiding before his arrest last June.

Lis was the highest-ranking Solidarity official to remain in jail after 630 political prisoners were freed under an amnesty last July.

Lis and Piotr Mierzwski, who was arrested with him and faced the same charges, were driven to Gdansk from Warsaw's Rakowiecka prison by police on Saturday.

Pravda: 'Arms pacts linked to space ban'

MOSCOW (Reuters). — The Communist Party daily Pravda said yesterday failure to curb space weapons would wipe out all that had been achieved so far in East-West arms agreements.

Pravda's comment was the latest in a series of Soviet pronouncements that have made clear the Kremlin sees space as the top issue at next month's talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Pravda attacked the U.S. anti-satellite programme and repeated the Soviet argument that President Reagan's Star Wars project for a space-based missile defence would violate the 1972 U.S.-Soviet anti-missile treaty.

The Kremlin has been urging the U.S. to agree on a space weapons ban for the past five months.

12,000 protest U.S. ship's visit to Japan

TOKYO (AP). — More than 12,000 people held rallies and marched around the Yokosuka U.S. naval base south of Tokyo yesterday to protest against the scheduled visit there by the 81,600-ton nuclear-powered U.S. aircraft carrier Carl Vinson, police said.

They said they arrested four members of radical leftist groups on charges of violating public security regulations.

The Carl Vinson is to arrive today in Yokosuka, 45 kilometres southwest of Tokyo, for a two-day rest-and-recreation visit. It will be the ship's first call at Yokosuka.

Yesterday's demonstrators, shouting "Go Home Carl Vinson" and "Don't Make Port Call," marched around the base in orderly fashion, but some radicals clashed with riot police, police said. About 2,000 riot police were mobilized to control the demonstrations.

The protesters claim the ship is carrying nuclear arms in violation of Japanese policy against production, possession or introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan.

Sports

Mats's joy on grass

MELBOURNE (Reuters). — Sweden's Mats Wilander captured his second successive Australian Open tennis crown yesterday with a 6-7 6-4 7-6 6-2 win over South African Kevin Curren. Wilander was too strong for Curren and won \$100,000 for two hours 52 minutes of play.

"I know I can play pretty well on grass now," Wilander said after the match. "I enjoy it, but if you don't play well, there is no way you can get back in a match like you can on clay."

Meanwhile Martina Navratilova, beaten in her attempt at a seventh successive Grand Slam singles title, notched the magic number with partner Pam Shriver in today's women's doubles final. They won 6-3 6-4 against Helena Sukova and Claudia Kohde of West Germany. The win was their 53rd success this year and 83rd in a row.

Falklands avenged

TOKYO (Reuters). — Independent of Argentina underlined that there is more than just the breadth of the Atlantic Ocean separating South American and European football when they beat Liverpool 1-0 to claim the World Club Championship here yesterday. A seventh minute goal by 19-year-old Jose Percudani was all that divided the teams, but the Argentines looked a class apart in terms of natural flair, invention and finishing power.

The annual showdown between the champions of Europe and South America was the first occasion England and Argentina have met in a major sports contest since the Falklands War in 1982. Fears that any lingering ill feeling would mar the occasion proved groundless as both teams provided a sporting and fascinating spectacle in Tokyo's Olympic Stadium.

France beat East Germany 2-0 in a World Cup qualifying match in Paris.

Wessels's heroism

ADELAIDE (Reuters). — A courageous 98 by Kepler Wessels, rescued Australia from another disaster on the third day of the third cricket Test against the West Indies here yesterday. Wessels, who returned to the crease after retiring hurt yesterday, and bowling hero Geoff Lawson, who made 49, put on 87 together after Australia had withered to 145 for six. Wessels battled for almost four hours before being bowled by Marshall just two runs short of his fourth test century.

Thanks largely to them, Australia hauled themselves to 284 all out, their best score of the series. At the close the West Indies were 13 for one giving them a lead of 85.

Marshall finished with five for 69 and there were two wickets apiece for Joel Garner and Courtney Walsh. Scores: West Indies 356 and 13/1, Australia 284. In Bombay, dogged batting by North Zone in their second innings earned them a draw against England. Scores: North Zone, 186 and 176/3, England 377.

Israeli rackets

Shlomo Glickstein and Shuhar Perlis are playing this week in the \$125,000 New South Wales Tennis Open in Sydney, which starts today. There is a 64-strong singles draw and 52 doubles teams in the week-long meet.

Vendetta

LONDON (AP). — Terry Venables, the English manager of Spanish soccer club Barcelona, has received a series of death threats, a British press report said Sunday. The mass-circulation News of the World quoted Venables, whose team is five points clear of Real Madrid at the top of the league table, as saying the threats were made during the past month in a series of telephone calls.

SCOREBOARD

ICE HOCKEY: NHL — Toronto Maple Leafs 3, St. Louis Blues 3, Hartford Whalers 4, New York Islanders 3, Montreal Canadiens 9, Los Angeles Kings 7, Philadelphia Flyers 4, New York Rangers 2, Quebec Nordiques 7, New Jersey Devils 3, Vancouver Canucks 3, Edmonton Oilers 2, Pittsburgh Penguins 6, Calgary Flames 4.

NBA — Phoenix 162, Golden State 98, Chicago 99, Dallas 97.

GOLF — Seve Ballesteros won the Sun City 52nd Golf Challenge with a nine-under-par 279 to take home \$300,000. Nick Faldo was second with 285.

SQUASH — World champion Jahangir Khan beat Greg Poldard 9-1, 9-2, 9-1 in the final of the Pakistan Masters.

National Football League

Standings following Saturday play:

	W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA
Miami	12	2	0	.857	490	269
New England	9	5	0	.643	371	320
N.Y. Jets	1	8	0	.267	311	315
Indianapolis	4	10	0	.286	312	363
Buffalo	2	13	0	.154	239	402

	W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA
Pittsburgh	7	7	0	.500	351	353
Cincinnati	6	8	0	.429	263	297
Cleveland	4	10	0	.286	203	254
Houston	3	11	0	.214	204	383

	W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA
Seattle	12	2	0	.857	267	217
Denver	11	3	0	.786	306	214
L.A. Raiders	10	4	0	.714	339	282
San Diego	7	7	0	.500	260	273
Kansas City	6	8	0	.429	238	285

	W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA
N.Y. Giants	9	5	0	.643	275	269
Washington	9	5	0	.643	267	255
Dallas	9	5	0	.643	259	259
St. Louis	8	6	0	.571	265	282
Philadelphia	5	8	1	.393	241	277

	W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA
Chicago	9	5	0	.643	281	215
Green Bay	6	8	0	.429	332	281
Detroit	4	8	1	.321	257	284
Minnesota	3	10	0	.231	206	271
Minnesota	3	12	0	.200	202	446

	W	L	T	Pct.	PP	PA
San Francisco	14	1	0	.933	456	211
L.A. Rams	9	5	0	.643	303	281
New Orleans	6	6	0	.500	287	334
Atlanta	3	11	0	.214	240	340

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San Francisco 51, Minnesota 7

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Tour No. 13: August 13, 1985
Tour No. 14: October 22, 1985

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THE

Domestic affairs

RANDOMALIA
Miriam Arad

IN ALMOST every marriage, there is one throw-away and one hoarder of everything because you never know when you may need it. If you are a hoarder by nature, you are driven to distraction by piles of old newspapers, letters, bills, tins of nails, nuts and screws or, alternately, ribbons and buttons; tangles of string and rubber bands; obscure medicines. Hoarders of both sexes possess wardrobes full of old clothes, and tend to be passionately attached to a 20-year-old sweater, or to a pair of trousers that has already gone out and come back into fashion twice.

Once in a month, the hoarder has his moment of triumph, as when the municipality claims all of a sudden that you owe them money on your 1976 water consumption: "See what a good thing it was that I kept those receipts?"

That reduces the hoarder to silence all right. He, or more often she, is in the minority anyway, since the kids seem to side with the hoarder, both because they are constitutional collectors themselves, and because it isn't they who have to shift the stuff at cleaning time.

It still is a moot point whether the hoarder was born that way, or was forced to become one due to marrying a hoarder, since two of the kind in one household are impossible: eventually they would find themselves with no living space left. I suppose it's what they mean by marriage partners complementing each other.

NOT THAT the complementary principle will always apply. It won't, for instance, in a marriage between a morning person and a late or evening bloomer. For how can someone who only starts waking up properly around noon cope with a mate who leaps out of bed at six of the clock, is bursting with ideas for the coming day, absolutely must describe last night's wacky dream and won't even be shut up by the paper at breakfast, because there are juicy bits to share and won't be put off by grunts. Of course the grunter gets his recompense in the evening, which is when he feels talkative but his mate has fallen asleep in front of the telly.

There are other incompatibles in marriage: the fresh-air fiend and the invertebrate window-closer who shivers in the lightest breeze; or the one who likes to have the radio on all day, never mind what comes out of it, whose mate is a downright ectomorph, who can't concentrate on anything if someone even whispers two rooms away.

Marriages like that can be saved, provided you are different enough — if one of you fancies the chicken breast and the other prefers the drumstick.

THROUGH every stage of growth, from seed to harvest, herbs fit into any garden picture. They may be grown in a rock or wall garden or as edgings for the flowering border. Tall herbs may be used as hedges or background borders, creeping ones as ground-covers.

Some herbs grow well in half-shaded, damp spots, others do best in dry, sunny ones. But fresh herbs are within the reach of everyone, even the apartment dweller who lacks a garden, for they can be grown in pots on a sunny window sill as easily as house plants. In fact, most herbs can grow anywhere under almost any conditions. Generally speaking, the poorer the soil, the better the plant and its aroma.

Writing this I recall when I was a schoolteacher many years ago and Rahel Yanait Ben-Zvi, the wife of our second president, visited our school garden. We had some flowering nasturtiums in an untreated plot near a fence, growing like weeds. We didn't sow them; the seed was probably dropped there by birds. They flowered in abundance in the poorest soil. Mrs. Ben-Zvi plucked up some nasturtium leaves and flowers and ate them on the spot. Addressing the schoolchildren, she said: "This is a fine plant for salads and for vases, edible as well as decorative. Plant it everywhere in your home garden, because it's rich in vitamins." Since then every year I have grown nasturtiums (*Kova hanazeer* in Hebrew) in my garden.

Amateur gardeners who grow their own herbs would never say they do so because they want to save money or because they can't find their favourites at the supermarket. But they would say that herb cultivation is a satisfying pursuit.

Parsley was described in my last column; the following herbs can be easily grown and are prized by cooks.

Borage (*Borago officinalis*, borage in Hebrew) is an easily grown annual with small, but decorative, blue and pinkish starry flowers. In spring it is a great attraction for bees and butterflies. It grows 40-50 cm. high and has hairy, grey-green foliage. Its leaves and flowers give a cool, cucumber-like taste to iced drinks.

Chopped borage is used in cucumber salad and in making pickles. This

ISRAEL'S judges may be a bit calmer these days, thanks to Kenneth Crawford.

Crawford, chief of training for the U.S. Federal Judicial Centre, recently visited Israel to head a series of workshops for the country's judges. In the U.S., he has conducted similar courses for the 743 judges in the federal judicial system.

The courses basically help gentlemen of the bench who are under considerable strain, not only because of the type of work they do, but because of the pressure of a growing case backlog, to take it easy. What he is trying to prevent is what Crawford views as an "epidemic of heart disease" among the judicial branch.

With his easy-going manner and outgoing personality, Crawford is an easy person to like, and believe,

Plants for all places

GARDENER'S CORNER, Walter Frankl

plant fits well in a rock garden. Grow it from seed, thin out and don't transplant. Borage, when left on its own, is "almost a perennial" for it continually self-sows during the year, thriving in winter as it does in summer. This plant comes originally from Aleppo and has become naturalized in many parts of Europe and the New World. As a medicinal herb, borage is beneficial to the circulation of the blood. The flowers of borage can be crystallized for decorating salads and cakes.

Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum*, *cusbar* in Hebrew, but commonly known by its Arabic name, *cubara*) spread from southern Europe to the countries of the Middle East. Centuries ago the Egyptians made use of it. Hippocrates (5th century B.C.E.) and other Greek physicians included it in their medicines. For the Jews it was, and still is, one of the bitter herbs (*maror*) eaten in the Pesach Seder. The colonizing Romans introduced coriander to France and Britain. Chutney is made from fresh coriander leaves. Use coriander in curries and rice, meat and fish dishes, toasted cheese, etc.

Cusbar is propagated from seed — it is the aromatic seed of coriander, whole or ground, that counts.

Coriander is an annual and may be sown now or in spring. No transplanting! Sow the seeds in rows where they are to remain. Thin later to have 10-12 cm. between plants. The round, beige seeds, looking like very small peas, remain visible for about five years and germinate quickly. Choose a well-drained, sunny place and water frequently during rainless periods.

Dill (*Anethum graveolens*, *shamir* or *shaver* in Hebrew) is native to the Mediterranean region and to south-

ern Europe. The ancient Egyptian papyrus Ebers written 1536 BCE recommends dill for headaches. The ancient Greeks and the Romans used aromatic dill branches for decorative garlands. One author in my gardening library, Prof. J. Becker-Dillenger (Berlin 1929) says dill was grown in the vegetable gardens of the Israelites. Tabernaemontanus, a herbalist, wrote in 1588: "Dill serves as a spice for pickled cucumbers." Nothing has changed in 400 years.

Dill is best sown in spring so its flowers and stems with seeds are available just when young cucumbers (good for pickling) are harvested. This mostly happens in June-July.

Sometimes, when you visit your herb garden in the early morning, you'll find the upper part of the fine, hairlike leaves eaten by a damaging caterpillar. This intruder is *Papilio machaon* (*sahal shamir* in Hebrew), one of the most exotic insects in this country. It is about 3-4 cm. long and has a velvet-like olive-green body with black stripes and red spots. Since dill is an edible, you can't use poison to get rid of the pest. Best to pick off the caterpillar and destroy it afterwards.

The flat, small seed of dill is sown in drills about 1 cm. deep. For quick germination, cover the drills with pure sand. Water carefully with a rosette-bearing watering can. Like coriander, dill is an annual and grows approximately 30-40 cm. high. Dill is a delicious addition to salads, soups and sauces.

Marjoram (*Origanum majorana* or *Majorana hortensis*, *mayoran* in Hebrew). Native to Asia, Europe and North Africa, marjoram has long been known to man. Venus

supposedly first grew marjoram, taking it from the ocean to the highest mountain top, where it was close to the sun's dynamic rays. Its genus name, "Origanum," means "joy of the mountains." Marjoram also belonged to the Egyptian god Osiris. Ancient Greek physicians used marjoram against bad colds, cramps, rheumatism and painful swellings. Sow marjoram in spring or autumn. It thrives in light, well-drained soil in full sun. Some people propagate this herb by cutting or division in spring. Marjoram is a perennial, but is better treated as an annual. You may use its little greyish leaves fresh or dried. They have an immensely strong aroma. Use this herb in soups, sauces, salads, sauces, with eggs and vegetables. If you want a hint from a gardener who likes cooking, use marjoram to flavour your goulash soup.

Rose (*Rosa odorata* tea rose, *vered reihane* in Hebrew). What has a rose to do with herbs, you may well ask. But our ancestors knew that rose hips were a valuable source of nourishment. Many people today use the rose's fleshy berry, after removing the hairy seeds, in jams, syrups and tart fillings. Rose hips are extremely rich in vitamin C and also contain vitamins A, E, and B. Rose hip tea is offered in groceries and supermarkets.

December, January and February are the rose months in this country — the first two for planting and the third for pruning. Many rose bushes during that time bear red and golden hips, which appear at the tops after the fading of the flowers. Let them grow to maturity and then use them in the kitchen. During the rose months, this column will deal with rose care, planting and pruning. A demonstration of rose planting, free to the public, will take place at the Wohl Rose Park near the Knesset in Jerusalem at 3:30 p.m. this Thursday (December 13). Some of our best rose experts will offer theoretical and practical information.

My next column will be a concluding chapter on herbs and then I will discuss roses. Meanwhile, prepare the ground and planting holes for rose in the garden and get large containers ready for rose plantings to go on the balcony or flat roof.

been showing all these symptoms. Failure to recognize them can be very dangerous, he adds, and can lead to a nervous breakdown, with constant depression and paranoia. Marilyn Monroe, Crawford believes, was the victim of this sort of stress, and the result eventually was her tragic suicide.

One of the ways Crawford recommends for dealing with stressful situations is trying to see events in a more objective light. An event is only an event. Other techniques include regular exercise, time management and conscious training to relax.

Of special interest to many Israelis is Crawford's advice concerning rudeness. If you let a nasty person get to you, he says, you are putting your life in his or her hands. "Try non-reaction as a way of life."

Survival skills

By HAIM SHAPIRO/Jerusalem Post Reporter

After only a few weeks in Israel, he left a trail of friendships around the country.

Equipped with a sense of humor that sometimes strikes very close to home, he told *The Jerusalem Post* that probably the greatest factor inducing stress among judges was incompetent lawyers, with the second greatest cause being fellow judges who are uncooperative. There is nothing that a judge can do about either, Crawford noted.

But, he added, a judge as well as those in other walks of life, can learn

to recognize sources of stress and deal with them. There are 100 ways to cope, he said, adding that it is dangerous to ignore stress.

By doing so, one risks becoming "burnt out," a situation characterized by constant fatigue, cynicism about the motives of others, procrastination, a desire to get away and a growing forgetfulness. Crawford, who runs his seminars in the U.S. with spouses present, says when he talks about this syndrome, he can usually see wives nudging their husbands to point out that they have

provided a break from the rather wearisome mood of the first part of the concert.

Even the Mozart, opening the second part, though on a much higher level than the Haydn, could not arouse our interest. Again the triads, runs, scales, fanfares and the hunting calls. The horn literature of the classical era really does not have much to offer. And why did Tuckwell choose for the closing item one of Haydn's weakest symphonies?

As for Tuckwell as hornist, he is an excellent craftsman, whom one enjoyed despite the music. His magnificent tone, ranging from the velvet-like piano to the metallic fortissimo, and the clarity and accuracy of his intonations in all registers were most gratifying. He is capable of much more.

What this concert needed was Britten's *Serenade for Horn and Strings* or one of the two brilliant horn concertos by Richard Strauss, which regrettably cannot be performed in Israel.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM
JERUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — Sir Michael Tippett and David Robertson, conductors; with Teresa Cahill, soprano (Jerusalem Theatre, November 14). Program: Concerto No. 3; Tippett: Symphony No. 3 (1978-79).

DAVID ROBERTSON is well remembered for his excellent conducting in the Olivier Messiaen programme last year. Generally, a musician excelling in contemporary music is not always acceptable in his approach to classical or romantic works. But Robertson had already proved himself in an all-Bethoven programme at the Jerusalem Festival, and he again showed his versatility and competence directing the Mendelssohn Symphony. Every body, including the audience, knows this standard piece almost by heart; usually it's performed dutifully and superficially. Not with David Robertson — he paid painstaking attention to every detail, be it the singing phrase or dynamic balance on instrumental contrasts. Yet he never lost the overall movement, and the result was a fresh, warm and lively reading.

After this, the Third Symphony by Sir Michael Tippett made for rather heavy going. Composers are rarely also good at conducting, but with dedicated assistance from an alert orchestra, everything seemed to pass without mishap. Combining political or socio-cultural ideas in an esoteric way with purely musical elements almost always leaves the listener

Monotonous movements

MUSIC REVIEWS

the wrong work.

But what happened to Prokofiev seemed even more perplexing. True, the work demands tremendous brachial strength and an impressive choral technique, both of which Berman can claim to possess. There were masses of sound and mighty sonorities, but these seemed to become the only *raison d'être* of the work! There was absolutely no content in the performance beyond the "toccata element". But Prokofiev also added to his headings *inquieto*, and *caloroso* (with warmth) and the last movement, played by Berman with meaningless jerkiness, he called *precipitato*, which means anticipating a disaster. Berman gave us no hint of this.

In between these two works, the six pieces by Brahms brought some solace. What characterized the performance was a beautiful combination of tempo and sound, in other words rubato and dynamical changes. Brahms' rich harmonic language was particularly well emphasized. The result was a beautifully restrained but at the same time emotionally stimulating performance.

BENJAMIN BAR-AM

GUITAR RECITAL — Stefano Grondona, Italy (Targ Music Centre, Jerusalem, December 3). Program: Suite in A minor; Suite in E minor; M. Giuliani: Romanza; M.M. Ponce: Three songs; Suite in G; W. Walton: Five Bagatelles (1972).

STEFANO GRONDONA began with two suites by Bach. BWV 995 (the first played here) is better known as the Fifth Sonata for Cello; as for BWV 996 (the second on the programme) some experts doubt that it was originally set for lute, though it is authentic Bach. Grondona performed the suites with agility and perfect control of tempo, maintaining, in particular, steady and appropriately serene movement in the *Sarabandes*.

After having proven his classical schooling and intelligent musicianship, he ventured, in the second

JERUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — Uri Segal, conducting; with David Benayahu, viola (Jerusalem Theatre, December 5). Program: "Benvenuto Cellini" Overture; Odeon: "Song of Praise"; Concerto No. 1, for Violin and Orchestra; Schumann: Symphony No. 1, op.38.

URI SEGAL is undoubtedly a competent and committed musician and an experienced conductor; he also is popular with our audiences, to judge by the prolonged applause at the end of the concert. My reservations stem from his rather monotonous and excessive movements and, consequently, from the monochrome sound of the orchestra — no subtle differentiations in dynamics, no changes in instrumental composite sonorities. There was no real attempt at a personal interpretation to provide more than a routine reading. Quite a few false entries from individual members of the orchestra could be inattentiveness on their part or lack of communication with the conductor — whatever, these things do not usually occur with the JSO.

Daniel Benayahu has long been a dedicated interpreter of Odeon Partos' music, and his performance of the *Song of Praise* again showed the veneration he feels for his mentor. His viola's tone has become more subtle over the years, and his reading achieved an intimacy and restraint rarely offered in a concerto. But, then, the Partos Concerto is not a virtuoso piece in the regular sense of the term, and the passages enabling the soloist to demonstrate his technical fluency are hilt into the fabric of the music and do not exist for their own sake. Benayahu's approach dealt with the content of the work in the best possible way.

YOHANAN BOEHM

PIANO RECITAL by Boris Berman (Tel Aviv Museum, December 4). Program: Sonata in B-flat Major, K. 333; Brahms: Piano Pieces Op. 118; Schubert: Serenade in A; Prokofiev: Sonata No. 7 in B-flat major.

A MUSICAL event organized by Boris Berman, or a recital by him always raises high expectations. This evening, however, dissatisfied pain-fall. The performance of the opening Mozart and the closing Prokofiev must even be described as disappointing. How Mozart can be turned into etude-like runs, hurriedly rushed up and down the keyboard and ignoring all the niceties, can hardly be understood. The performance even lacked the essential lightness of touch and elegance of tone that should characterize any Mozart performance. If Berman wanted to give us a show of virtuosity, he chose

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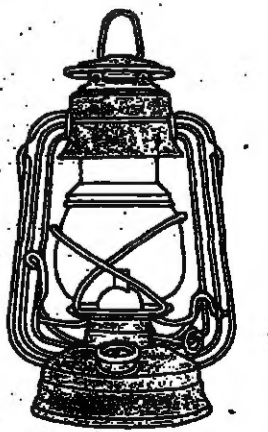
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Money Matters

Monday, December 10, 1984 The Jerusalem Post Page Seven

Leutwiler retires from BIS

ZURICH (Reuters). - Fritz Leutwiler takes his leave of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) today, having seen the bank through what many bankers say were the most trying three years of its 54-year history.

The handover to Belgian National Bank Governor Jean Godeaux is likely to dominate today's monthly meeting of central bankers at the BIS in Basel, now that the issues that brought the bank into the headlines have been at least temporarily resolved.

Monetary sources said Leutwiler, who at 60 is also retiring as president of the Swiss National Bank, was a major force in the BIS's decision to act swiftly in 1982 as debt-laden American and Eastern Bloc countries needed short-term aid.

The BIS, often dubbed the central bank of central bankers, acts as a clearing house for transactions between member nations. But in mid-1982, shortly after Leutwiler moved to its presidency, the BIS found itself offering one of the few ways to avert a major world banking crisis.

Hungary was the first country to come to BIS for help in 1982. Major central banks working through BIS provided a \$210 million loan after

El Al offers bonus scheme to meet TWA competition

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Aviation Reporter

TEL AVIV. - El Al yesterday announced a programme of bonuses for frequent travellers, offering up to a free round-trip ticket to New York - in first class.

The programme, patterned after similar schemes American carriers offer to attract passengers, is aimed at the estimated 20,000 Israelis who go abroad frequently. It also hopes to stem a decline in traffic on El Al by frequent U.S. travellers, who have told the national carrier they planned to fly TWA because it offers bonuses.

Speaking to reporters at company headquarters at Ben-Gurion Airport, yesterday, Yeshayahu Harsit, the head of El Al's marketing division, said he expected the scheme to attract 3,000 new customers. That would more than cover the cost of the bonuses, because many of these travellers buy the more expensive tickets. A full return fare to New York costs 3.3 times more than the cheapest ticket available, he noted.

The frequent travellers programme is open to anyone. Passengers

Action moves over to bond market

TEL AVIV. - The volume moved away from bonds and over to shares in yesterday's trading, but the price activity went in the opposite direction. While shares showed little movement, bonds were ahead by almost 2 percent in the general index, and many series rose by 4-5 percent.

The action in the share market was described as "profit-taking by market professionals." While the turnover soared to \$2.6 billion - by far the largest such figure in this market for many a long month - the other measures of the trend showed a much more mixed pattern than had been the case last week. Nevertheless, the fact remains that the profit-taking, if such it is, is proceeding without serious hitches and the chances are therefore good that the rally will recommence in a day or two.

Mortgage bank shares had an outstanding day, with the sectoral index rising 9 percent in one session. However, other than the insurance sector - which rose 2.67 percent - the other sectors were weak, with slight falls in several cases.

Certain individual shares nonetheless showed tremendous gains on the day. By far the best in this respect was the Ya'ane computer share. After three successive days of "buyers only," the trading was eventually opened in this issue when it had risen 71 percent on the day, and almost 100 percent since this move started.

This particular move was triggered as much by a newspaper piece

MARKET COMMENT

By PINHAS LANDAU

which highlighted the fact that Ya'ane shares were the worst performer on the market this year, as by any news regarding the company itself.

Bank shares continued to perform poorly, despite the large demands that were registered for these dollar-linked issues. The slow crawl of the official dollar rate - as against the rapid march of the black dollar - makes these shares unattractive in the current atmosphere.

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices

General Share Index	1847.40	+0.22%
Non-bank Index	1814.76	+0.34%
Bank Index	1799.24	+0.16%
Industrial	526.42	+0.10%
Bond Index	517.34	+1.06%

Turnovers

Shares	18,241.7m
Bonds	18,142.7m
Total	36,384.4m
Advances	25.7
Declines	116
of which 5% +	37
of which 5% -	26
"Buyers only"	36
"Sellers only"	36

Bond market trends

4% fully-linked:	Rises to 5.5%
3% fully-linked:	Mixed to 4.5%
80% linked:	Rises to 4.5%
90% linked:	Rises to 4.5%
Double option:	Rises to 4.5%
Dollar-linked:	Rises to 5.5%

Most Active Shares

Hapalaim	16410	18341	n.c.
Leumi	10385	18547	n.c.
IDB	2420	18226	n.c.

U.S. bought \$280m. worth of German marks

NEW YORK (Reuters). - The Federal Reserve and the U.S. Treasury bought \$280 million worth of German marks in September and October, the U.S. Central Bank said on Friday.

The purchases were designed to counter disorderly market conditions, according to the New York

Fed's Quarterly Report to Congress on U.S. foreign-exchange operations.

A Fed spokeswoman said this was the largest purchase of foreign currency by U.S. authorities since a \$778.4m. purchase of marks in February and March, 1981.

Lufthansa sells Boeing after 25 years' service

Lufthansa last week sold a Boeing 707 - during its service it had flown a distance it takes to reach Mars, a company spokesman said here yesterday.

The four-engine jet had been in a German carrier's service for 25 yrs. It was the last Boeing 707 in

Lufthansa's service. All these models have now been replaced by Airbus A 310s.

MORE OIL. - Libya has discovered new oil that could increase its crude reserves - currently estimated at 21.3 billion barrels - by 13 percent.

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TEL AVIV STRIKE

(Continued from Page One)

was made by the mayor to speak to any government authority yesterday.

Lahat said yesterday that the strike might last for some time as there is no indication that any funds are on their way to pay the workers.

Some of the city's 8,000 striking workers demonstrated outside City Hall to protest against not having been paid their November salaries, and staff committee representative chairman Teddy Kaufman promised to fight for the workers' wages and against dismissals - both of tenured and temporary workers.

"Some 14,000 families have been left without their livelihood or pension. There's never been a scandal like this. We shall fight against firing temporary workers - they have permanent children they must feed, if not permanent jobs," Kaufman said.

The regional labour court yesterday decided to seize up to IS2 billion in the Finance Ministry's account which is due to the city, to pay the workers' salaries. The city's legal adviser consented to the demand made by the workers' organization to seize these funds.

Last month, when the government released funds to the city to pay the wages, income tax and National Insurance Institute authorities seized the money before the city could pay the workers.

LAMBS FOR OIL. - New Zealand is negotiating a deal with Iran under which about 115,000 tons of slaughtered lamb would be traded for some six million barrels of oil. The deal would be worth more than 300 million New Zealand dollars (\$120 m. U.S. dollars).

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HOLLAND	GULDEN	1 170.5083 172.6359	168.9900 175.0000
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SWEDEN	KRONA	1 67.5612 68.4042	66.0900 69.5400
NORWAY	KRONE	1 66.6227 67.4541	65.1700 68.3800
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N. Amer. 3	3515	192	-5.0	Yarden Hot	253	36	n.c.	Adgar	no trading		
Danot 1	540	30	+4.9	Yahalom	233	366	+9.5	Adgar	no trading		
Danot 2	126	1819	n.c.	Yahalom	363	366	-18.6	Adgar	no trading		
Danot 3	318	0	n.c.					Adgar	no trading		
Finland 1	897	3546	+2.3	Computers				Adgar	no trading		
FTB 1	810	3633	n.c.	Data	400	213	n.c.	Adgar	no trading		
Commercial Banks				Hilom 1	1540	33	+3.7	Adgar	no trading		
(part of "arrangement")				Hilom 2	2140	67	+1.0	Adgar	no trading		
IDB 1	24300	947	n.c.	Ya'ane	1000	378	+71.2	Adgar	no trading		
IDB 2	27500	32	+6.2	Ya'ane	767	159	+75.5	Adgar	no trading		
IDB 3	153000	0	n.c.	Clal Comp.	1017	101	+5.0	Adgar	no trading		
Union 1	18212	181	n.c.	Clal Comp.	474	121	+10.0	Adgar	no trading		
Union 2	31300	16	+1.8	M.L.L. 1	2456	5	-5.0	Adgar	no trading		
Union 3	31300	96	+0.0	M.L.L. 2	1030	34	+1.0	Adgar	no trading		
Dit. B. 1	3100	96	+0.0	M.L.L. 3	762	20	+1.0	Adgar	no trading		
Dit. B. 2	3100	96	+0.0	Mishov	476	221	+13.0	Adgar	no trading		
Dit. B. 3	3100	96	+0.0	Nikuv 1	109	925	+101.1	Adgar	no trading		
Mizrah 1	9950	994	n.c.	Nikuv 2	836	206	+10.0	Adgar	no trading		
Mizrah 2	10000	70	-1.3	Nikuv 3	568	222	+10.1	Adgar	no trading		
Mizrah 3	4630	15	-1.3	Nikuv 4	389	211	+12.8	Adgar	no trading		
				Nikuv 5	1201	20	-7.7	Adgar	no trading		
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Rekindling an old love

BY WHATEVER reasonable measure it is judged, Prime Minister Shimon Peres's state visit to Paris must be pronounced a striking success.

The warmth and hospitality with which Mr. Peres was received in the French capital last week went beyond what might have been expected from a regime headed by an old friend of the premier's, President Francois Mitterrand, and they extended to most of the French political community. In an interview on Israeli television, Premier Laurent Fabius said the visit marked a "new era" in relations between the two countries.

Mr. Peres himself seemed to place France and the U.S. on nearly equal footing in terms of their backing for this country when he observed, at a press conference just prior to his departure for home, that "Israel has two steady friends in this world - President Reagan and President Mitterrand."

This need not be taken literally as an assertion that France may from now on be relied upon to play roughly the same role as the U.S. in guaranteeing Israel's security. Characteristically, the matter of arms purchases did not come up at all during the visit: France is not about to regain its one-time position as Israel's chief military supplier. And it was noteworthy that while Mr. Peres was in Paris, France voted with its EEC allies, at a meeting in Dublin, to reaffirm support for the PLO's participation in the peace process - a view disavowed in the past by Mr. Mitterrand.

Clearly, the new French-Israeli relationship will not be free from disagreement. But as a result of Mr. Peres's visit a mechanism has been decided upon, in the form of regular ministerial meetings, "to attain the maximum possible coordination of our foreign-policy positions vis-a-vis the Middle East."

On a daily basis, too, Israel may from now on take greater advantage of France's proffered good-offices in pursuing the goal of regional peace. An important start was already made in Mr. Mitterrand's acting as an intermediary between Israel and Syria during his recent visit to Damascus. His intervention, while not displacing the American diplomatic effort, could, sooner or later, produce a tacit understanding that would enable the IDF to withdraw from Lebanon.

French-Israeli economic and technological ties may also have now received a boost. Whether this country actually needs, and can afford, the two nuclear power plants Mr. Peres was offered, is moot, and requires a thorough examination. But the offer itself should be viewed as the harbinger of stepped-up cooperation in bilateral matters between the two countries.

A France that is openly, and unabashedly, friendly towards Israel cannot but affect, over time, the attitude of the European Community as a whole. The question is whether Mr. Mitterrand's policy will survive a possible socialist setback in the 1986 National Assembly and in the 1988 presidential poll. At the moment, however, French opposition leaders seem to be suggesting that it will.

One broad hint to this effect is being dropped by the Gaullist leader and Mayor of Paris, Jacques Chirac, by his visit here this week.

Treasury vs the aged

THE TREASURY's continuing delay in deciding whether to support a National Insurance Institute proposal to update pensions for the elderly, the widowed and the disabled is callous and insufferable.

The standard of living of some 235,000 citizens whose sole income is their NII old age, survivor or disability pensions was once protected by a law passed in 1973. That year the country's annual inflation was a humble 15 per cent. The law included a provision linking the benefits to what were then quarterly cost-of-living increments.

But under an annual inflation approaching 800 per cent, and with C-o-L increments now made monthly, the basis for such well intentioned and once sufficient legal protection has eroded away. Since June, the income of the country's neediest citizens has shrunk by up to 25 per cent.

The NII sought to redress this imbalance, but efforts to amend the law were pushed aside during the election campaign. After the elections a three-month emergency measure was enacted, to reduce the damage of erosion. That measure expired on October 31. Last month, due to procrastination by the Treasury, a similar measure had to be enacted at the last moment for another month - with the understanding that a more permanent arrangement would be worked out without further delay.

But the delay continues. The NII has prepared a proposal for an amendment - to be in effect for six months to a year - that would restore the aid level to the required minimum. The benefits would be paid for by regular NII collections, not requiring Treasury funding.

However, the Treasury has balked at committing itself. The Knesset Labour and Social Affairs Committee heard testimony on the proposal last Wednesday, at which time the Treasury promised a decision by last Friday. That deadline passed and still another passed as well as the deliberations continued over the weekend and yesterday.

It is already too late for the right decision by the Treasury to be programmed into the NII computer for the payment of this month's benefits. But the danger exists that the Treasury will now feel free to drag its feet for another month.

How long does it take to recognize that an elderly pensioner, or a widow with children, or a handicapped person, is entitled to the same income protection enjoyed by a healthy, young, unionized wage earner? The principle of the original law - and the intention of the Knesset - was clearly to protect that right.

That principle, and that intention, will doubtless be reaffirmed by the present Knesset once it is in a position to act. But the Treasury must first do its duty.

HIJACKERS

(Continued from Page One)

sources said Neil Beeston, the British flight engineer aboard the Airbus, was among those released earlier.

The move had come only a few hours after the hijackers read their last will and testament to the control tower, said their "final prayers" and vowed to blow up the plane if Kuwait does not meet their demands.

The hijackers, said by well-informed diplomats here to be three Lebanese and two Palestinians, refused food and drinks and said they had finished planting their explosives. Then, at about 3.15 p.m., they cut communications with the tower, raising fears they were about to carry out their threat.

But less than two hours later, at

5.10 p.m. they re-established contact with the outside world and accepted food packages, Irma reported.

The hijackers, who said they had killed two U.S. officials and 153 other hostages, had freed 252 people, mostly Pakistanis. They had threatened to kill another American and three Kuwaiti officials if Kuwait did not free 17 Shi'ite Muslims jailed there for bombing the U.S. and French Embassies a year ago.

Irma said that shortly before their final warning the hijackers dragged one of the Kuwaiti passengers to the landing steps and started beating him. The man, who was screaming, appealed for the hijackers' demands to be met, Irma reported.

(See Page 4)

GIVE SOLDIERS LIFTS

Return to normality

By ASHER WALLFISH

PRIME MINISTER Shimon Peres's official visit to France symbolizes a return to normality rather than a revival of the love affair that characterized relations between France and Israel in the Fifties and Sixties.

That first love was, for the French at least, a blind love. They idealized Israel; they were uncritical. French public opinion opposed the brutal manner of former president Charles de Gaulle in slapping an arms embargo on Israel in 1967. And there was a feeling in France that De Gaulle's government was behaving in a ridiculous manner when it resented Israel's refusal to meekly acquiesce in the embargo.

Yet several Frenchmen whom I met in Paris during the prime minister's visit have told me that while the previous wrong is now being set right, Israel's image in France's eyes has undergone a change: after seven years of Likud rule and after the military adventure in Lebanon, France now feels free to criticize.

While the relationship may never be the same as it was in the halcyon Fifties and Sixties, it is perhaps appropriate that it is Peres who is, on Israel's side, orchestrating a revival of the ties.

Peres, after all, was the architect of the Franco-Israeli alliance, and even though the former military ties will not be restored - Israel in any event no longer needs them - there is little doubt that Peres at last feels vindicated.

No other Israeli leader, after all, accorded so much importance to France. At the same time, the French have reciprocated. They like Peres, they approve of his style, they forgive his heavy accent, they respond to his emotional phrases.

I even heard one French guest at an Israeli Embassy cocktail party in his honour ask, "Why don't we have any French politicians like Peres?"

A true evaluation of the prime minister's visit, of course, must strike a balance between the exhilaration shown by most Israelis and the sober satisfaction shown by most non-involved Frenchmen to whom I spoke.

French President Francois Mitterrand decided long ago to have his prime minister invite an Israeli prime minister to Paris. I was told, it could have been Yitzhak Shamir. But the fact that it was Peres helped make the visit that much warmer and more intimate.

The 30-year friendship between two veteran socialists added to the warmth. But the socialist tie was not pre-eminent, since the visit reflected the understanding between the two governments and the two nations, not just between the two party leaders.

Hence, even though the fortunes of the Socialist Party of France are generally considered to be on the decline, there seems no reason to fear that a different government and a different president in Paris would once again turn back the clock in Franco-Israeli relations.

French officials say they do not expect a serious backlash from the Arab world as a result of the impressive welcome given to Peres and the warm terms employed towards Israel by French leaders. Even if Arab pressure follows, they say, France can and will withstand it. That, however, remains to be seen.

MEANWHILE, Israel's ambassador in France, Ovadia Sofer believes

that Israel must keep on building relations with France one brick at a time, rather than in dramatic leaps forward.

Summing up the prime minister's visit, which ended on Saturday evening, Sofer says Israel should avoid the temptation to indulge in euphoria over the visit, despite its achievements, because France remains "constrained by its mercantile interests in the Arab world."

"Nowadays, those constraints do not prevent France from being friendly with Israel as well as with the Arabs," says Sofer. "Israel is once again on the French political map."

After the total freeze in relations between 1967 and 1981, he says, a new wind began blowing with President Francois Mitterrand's election. No French president visited Israel before Mitterrand.

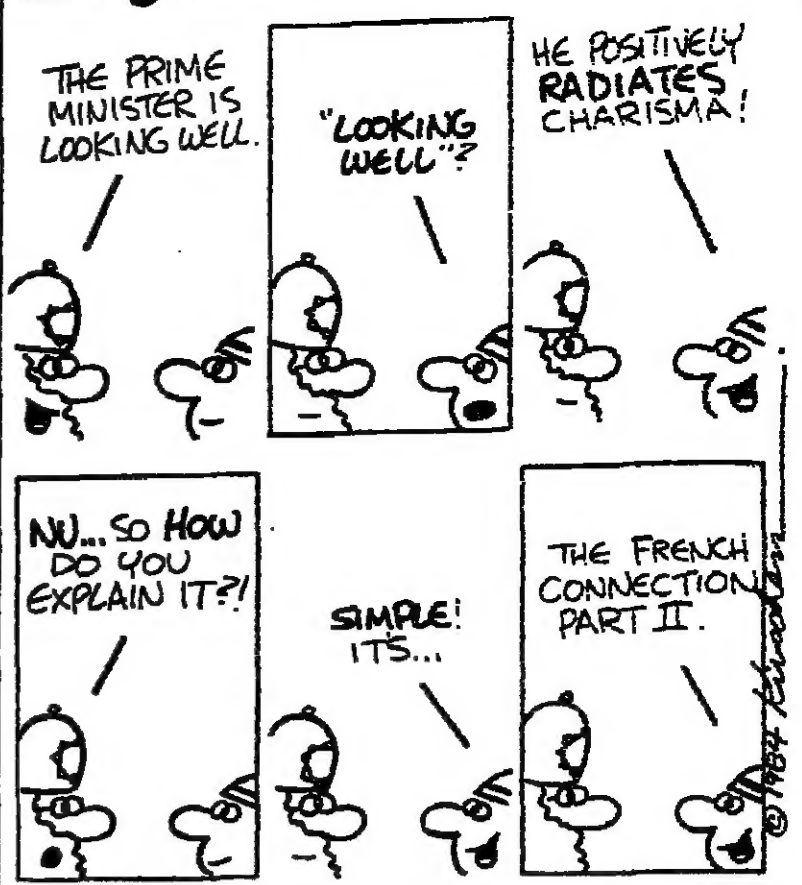
The war in Lebanon in 1982 created a chill, but the relationship thawed somewhat in 1983 when the French government recognized that good relations with Israel would be essential if France were to play a role in the Middle East.

"Between 1977 and 1983 inclusive, only one French minister visited Israel. In 1984 alone, eight ministers came."

Sofer is realistic about French priorities: "Relations with Iraq are very close to constituting an alliance. Ties with the Persian Gulf states are extremely close. And French-speaking North Africa is more important still than the Middle East."

Nevertheless, he stresses, France sees it has common interests with Israel, too. "It is up to us to bring those interests into sharper focus and to give them permanence. We

Dry Bones



must develop an infrastructure of relations which will withstand change in France on the domestic scene. In the economic, industrial, scientific and cultural fields, we must lay brick after brick. The existing mutual sympathy is not enough."

Sofer believes there is potential for greater commercial cooperation, with French manufacturers producing goods with Israel in jointly owned plants for sale on the American market. And he believes there is scope for Israeli manufacturers to work more closely with their French counterparts to sell their goods in the European Community.

"Elsaint, which is already doing

well in France, is now seeking French capital to open a plant in France and to sell to other countries," Sofer notes.

Sofer believes that when Israel plans its political strategy, "it can profit if it also takes France's international activity into account, because France, albeit a middle-range power, thinks like a superpower."

"France bridges the gap between its real standing and its philosophy of world politics by generating political initiatives that acquire an existence of their own," he says.

The writer, a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff, covered the premier's visit to France.

Double standard

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

less-polished colleague, was right in deciding that it now considers the case closed.

WE HAVE NO intention here of going into the questions of divine retribution or the advisability of compulsory army service for women. But if public policy is to be determined by the assumption that punishment from heaven is a real and present danger, then you really have a theocracy, or what some Knesset members prefer to call Khosheimism.

That dirty word may not faze Rabbi Peretz, who says that "the Torah is our platform." But we wonder whether he gave any thought to the implications of his statement last week, that if it were not for the heroism of the Jewish women in the Maccabean period, there would be no Hanukkah to celebrate today (and maybe no Jews to celebrate it?).

Peretz quoted the Midrash as saying that when the Greek-Syrians conquered the land, the Jews fled to the forests and the deserts and carried on Torah study in secret. The daughters of Israel told their husbands, "Go out and fight!" To which the men replied: "Is it not enough that we study Torah and observe the mitzvot in caves and forests?"

Whereupon the women began taking their small children to the mountain cliffs, circumcizing their sons in the sight of the enemy and jumping to their deaths in order to compel the men to go out and fight.

DOES Rabbi Peretz see no moral in that frightful story for an Israel that is again threatened by enemies?

When asked why yeshiva students (except those in *heder yeshivas*) do not serve in the army, he says that the yeshiva student, in his way, contributes no less to his people than the combat soldier. In fact, he maintains, it's easier to run with a rifle every morning than to study Gemara 16 hours a day. He is not impressed by the argument that no one was ever killed by a tractate of the Talmud.

But if the Torah guardians of one political stripe or another leave to other young men the (easier?) task of physically guarding the country at the risk of life and limb, do they have any right to preach about moral deficiencies in the army?

SHAS was the subject of another Knesset debate last Wednesday, when Mapam's Ya'ir Tsaban raised the question of the political activities of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the party's founder, mentor, and head of its rabbinical council, *Moetzet Hachmei Hatora*.

The problem is that Rabbi Yosef, as a dayan in the High Rabbinical Court of Appeal, is barred, as are judges in the state courts, from being active in politics. The attorney general says that he is disobeying the law, but Rabbi Yosef hasn't heard. Peretz was in his seat at the cabinet table when Tsaban spoke, but - perhaps to his credit - remained silent.

But Rabbi Yosef was defended by two other MKs. One was Agadat

Yisrael's Menahem Porush, who suggested that Tsaban should show more respect for Rabbi Yosef: "You don't come up to his ankles." Completely forgotten here was Moses' admonition to the people in the first chapter of Deuteronomy, *Lo takiru fanim bamishpat* - "Ye shall not respect persons in judgment."

The second defender was Labour MK Rabbi Menahem Hacohen, who sounded like a Jesuit in explaining the difference between "a judge and a rabbi." And when Tsaban corrected him - "a judge and a dayan" - he countered, "A dayan is also a rabbi; we don't distinguish between the two."

Neither Porush nor Hacohen claimed that the attorney general has misinterpreted the law. What they were really saying was that dayanim ought to be excluded from the law.

But if Porush, or Peretz by his silence, condones Rabbi Yosef's violation of the law because he is a Torah sage, how can they expect the secularists to listen when they berate women soldiers for sexual immorality - even if they don't link this to divine retribution?

THE EVENING before all this took place, the Aguda's Rabbi Avraham Shapira spoke in the Knesset about the other side of the coin: divine reward.

During a debate on the subject of road accidents, Shapira argued that since 14 per cent of all road accidents occur on Shabbat, it was vital to end all public transport on that day. (Ideally, he said, there should be no cars on the road on Shabbat, but since that would be considered religious coercion, he was not proposing that.)

Shapira said the time had come for the Jewish people to stop being ashamed of the Sabbath. The time had come for all of us to agree to put an end, immediately, to public transport on that day. "And if we do that," he said, "the number of accidents will decrease even on weekdays."

If that is his conviction, he has every right to it, and every right to try to seek converts for it. But Sha-

pira has lately been in the news for another reason. Although he has succeeded Shlomo Lorincz as chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, he is holding on to his position as chairman of the Bank of Israel Advisory Committee.

Since the Finance Committee, among other things, sits in judgment on the Bank of Israel, it seems obvious that one man should not hold both posts. After Knesset legal advisers Zvi Inbar and Eliezer Dembitz recommended that he be strict with himself "in order to lay down a positive norm," Shapira on September 24 promised that he would give up one of the two posts - but not just yet.

SHAPIRA also has a private business - Carmel Carpets - one can hardly say "on the side." It is very much in front. On September 5, Shapira walked out of the Finance Committee meeting in a huff.

The committee had been discussing the payment of \$10b. in aid to exporters, and when Shapira began to speak, some members dared to suggest that since Carmel Carpets stood to gain from the measure, he had a conflict of interest. Shapira retorted angrily that the motion would pass without his vote, and threatened to publicize a list (he has not done so to date) of MKs who are silent partners in business enterprises and deals. In other words, everybody's doing it.

Also relevant is the lavish wedding reception for 3,000 guests, followed by a dinner for 800, when Shapira's daughter was married in September 1983. Is this the example the chairman of the Bank of Israel Advisory Committee should give the nation?

A Sabbath observer myself, I would be happy if Shapira's plea for less Sabbath traffic proved successful. But it doesn't have the slightest chance. Not least, because a secularist will not be persuaded to change by words alone.

If Orthodoxy means not travelling on Shabbat, but behaving in everyday life no better, and often worse, than other Jews - and letting them do the fighting - the best reaction Rabbi Peretz and Shapira can expect from such talk is a condescending smile.

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